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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Extension Service

Washington 25, D. C.

March 7, 1947

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TO ALL STATE EXTENSION DIRECTORS:

Subject: Current Farm Labor News - #6

H. R. 2102 passed the House on March 4 after lengthy debate. Vote: 243 yes, 110 no, 79 not voting. The debate which filled 19 pages of the Congressional Record largely centered around (1) opposition to continuation of foreign labor program and (2) desire to reduce federal expenditures. Senate Bill 724 hearings scheduled for March 7.

Representatives of producers met in Washington again on March 5.

Director F. A. Anderson, Colorado, chairman of the Land-Grant College Committee on a permanent Farm Labor program spent March 4-7 in Washington.

As a new feature in his weekly Farm Labor news letter, State Supervisor Murphy of Illinois is presenting a weekly report on farm accidents--number of accidents, people involved, killed, mandays work lost. The data in the news letter is based on the weekly reports from the counties. The Illinois Extension editor picks up the assembled data and works it into news stories. Three wire services have been carrying these stories and use of them in the press--daily and weekly, has been extensive, according to Bob Walker, assistant extension editor, who is handling farm labor information.

Our thanks to State Farm Labor Supervisors Mercer, Hohn and Snipes for forwarding excellent pictures and text which can be used in an all over wheat and small grain harvest story now being prepared by a national magazine. All of this material came as a result of the request in my letter of January 27.

Nine pieces of Farm Labor information material have been put in the printing hopper and will be rolling into the states, as a result of your orders, during the next few weeks. One piece--the arrow cards--was distributed to the states in January. It is now indicated that the dates when delivery of the other pieces to the states will be started, are about as follows:

General recruiting poster, 2 colors	March 24
Wheat harvest guide, 1 color, 20 pages	April 1
Western harvest guide, 20 pages, 1 color	April 18
Information Program	April 15
Basic Fact Sheet	May 15
Farm Work for City Youth, 18-page folder, 1 color	April 21
Youth Can Help folder, 1 color	March 14
Want a Farm Job folder, 1 color	March 14
Our School poster, 2 colors	March 21
Want a Farm Job poster, multi-colored	April 1

The Central harvest guide is in the hands of artists and writers and likely will not reach the printers before early April. After that about 6 weeks will be required for printing at GPO. An early start will be made in assembling material for the East coast guide. The National Labor Survey map is nearly ready for final drafting. Accompanying material, which will be multilithed, is in final stages of preparation.

Les Schlup in his letter to State extension editors has this to say about a market for news about gadgets that are home-made and handy. "Popular Mechanics as an outlet for items on labor-saving devices and gadgets was brought personally to our attention recently when Managing Editor Roderick M. Grant called, with the February issue in his hand. He says he is looking for more agricultural ideas, and that his magazine--with a million circulation--offers a good outlet for us. He's in the market for 'how to do it' features--including a picture and paragraph of description--about 100 words. He now has a list of extension editors and plans to send you an early issue to give you an idea of the type of short agricultural feature he can use". This presents an opportunity for state farm labor supervisors, labor utilization supervisors, and Farm Labor information people to feed a grist of ideas into the news hopper.

The East Coast migratory labor conference will be held at West Palm Beach, Florida, next week, March 13-14. State Farm Labor supervisors or others are representing the states. The federal office is represented by Joy, Pittman, Cobb and Welch.

Yours very truly,

Meredith C. Wilson
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Deputy Director of Extension
Farm Labor Program

(Copy to: State supervisors)

